Coconino County Sheriff's Office

Bill Pribil, Sheriff

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release Contact: Gerry Blair (928) 226-5089

Date: February 8, 2010

Deceased Missing Person's Vehicle Located

Flagstaff, AZ –Fifty-three year old Robert Lee Watts of Kaibab Estates West who was reported as a missing person on December 28, 2009, was found deceased yesterday, February 4, 2010 at about 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Watts was reported missing by a friend he was living with in Kaibab Estates West, a subdivision located north of Ashfork and within Coconino County. According to the reporting party, Mr. Watts left his home at 6:30 a.m. on December 26, 2009 with the intent of driving to a store located in Ashfork. He was last seen driving a 2009 Toyota four door sedan, dark gray in color, with Washington license plate (120-YEN). The reporting party called the Sheriff's Office on December 28, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. and advised that Robert had not returned home and she had not heard from him.

On Saturday, February 6, 2010 at about 2:00 p.m. residents of the Kaibab Estates West (KEW) neighborhood were driving in the area of Terry and Coconino Blvd. located within KEW when they observed Mr. Watts' vehicle described as a 2009 Toyota four door sedan, dark gray in color, with Washington license plate (120-YEN). The vehicle was off the road damaged and disabled. Detectives are considering the possibility that Robert Watts lost control of his vehicle causing it to become stranded and disabled. Detectives are also considering the possibility that he left his vehicle on foot eventually becoming lost and disoriented.

Investigators searched the route from Robert's home to the store with negative results. Deputies learned that Mr. Watts was involved in a similar incident in August of 2009 and was subsequently located by members of the Coconino County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Unit. Deputies hiked into the location where Mr. Watts was located in August but saw no sign of him.

Mr. Watts' body was located on Thursday, February 4, 2010 at about 11:00 a.m. by a rancher who was inspecting a fence line on the Randall Ranch. The location where Mr. Watt's body was discovered is approximately 10 miles from his home. Detectives were able to find photo identification that assisted them in confirming that the victim was Robert Lee Watts. At this point detectives have found no evidence to indicate foul play however this investigation is ongoing.